

### ACCOUNTS OF GOLD MINING & EXPLORATION COMPANIES

T. DONALD
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### ACCOUNTS

OF

### GOLD MINING AND EXPLORATION COMPANIES.

With Instructions and Forms for Rendering the same
to the Head Office.

BY

T. DONALD.



### Mondon:

EFFINGHAM WILSON,
ROYAL EXCHANGE, E.C.

1901.

H F5686 M 606

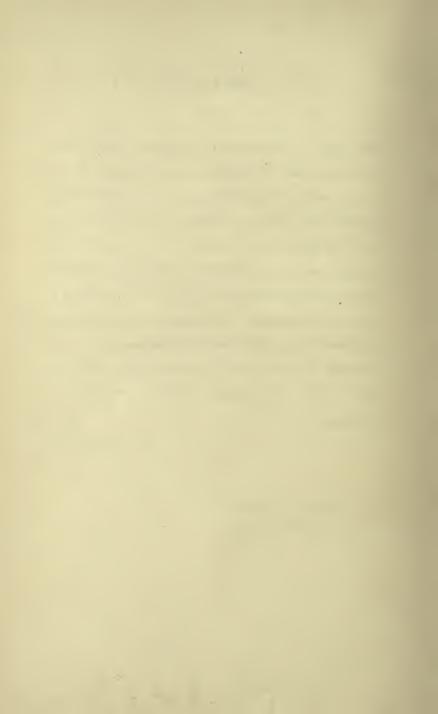
London:
Printed by Fredc. C. Mathieson & Sons,
16, Copthall Avenue, E.C.

### PREFACE.

The want of a Work on the Accounts of Gold Mining and Exploration Companies has been long felt by the Author during his professional practice as an Accountant and Secretary. His aim has therefore been to deal with all points that are likely to arise in such Accounts, so as to supply not only a reliable guide, but also an exhaustive Letter of Instructions from the Directors or Secretary to the Local Book-keeper. The suggestions and instructions contained herein might, however, be supplemented by the Secretary as to any special points that may arise from time to time in connection with his own particular Company.

T. DONALD.

19, St. Swithin's Lane, E.C. 12th July, 1897.



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### ACCOUNTS

OF

### Gold Mining & Exploration

COMPANIES.

IN submitting the following short Treatise,
INTRODUCTORY it is assumed that the reader is already
Remarks, I. acquainted with the principles of Bookkeeping, the writer's present intention
being to advise as to the method of keeping and rendering
Accounts to the Head Office, such advice being based
on many years' practical experience with the Accounts of
Gold Mining and Exploration Companies.

OBJECTS, 2. object of Book-keeping is to have a complete record of the various pecuniary transactions of the Company; and the object of the Book-keeper should, therefore, be to supply this record correctly, and with such brevity as is compatible with the details required for reference.

The primary Books of Account are BOOKS OF the same as used in a merchant's office, ACCOUNT, 3. viz.:—

- 1. Journal,
- 2. Cash Book,
- 3. Ledger,

and in this order we will consider their respective uses.

The Journal ought to contain a record of all transactions other than cash receipts and payments. The book may be subdivided as follows:—

- (a, Bills Payable.
- (b) Bills Receivable.
- (c) Stores Inwards Book.
- (d) Stores Outwards Book.
- (e) Wages or Time Book.

It is preferable, however, to treat these as Memorandum Books, and not as Books of Account. (See paragraph 8.)

Care should be taken that no transfer of an item in the Ledger from one account to another is made, except by means of an entry in the Journal. A certified copy of the Journal should be sent to the Head Office monthly on the following form:—

IHE	······································	CON	APAN	X, LI	MIIE	D.
-						
0 / 0 ~ 1 /	3.6 .1 .1:					
Copy of Journal for	Month endir	ng	*****************	************************		1144440
			1	1		-
				1111		
				1		
		j				
I certify t	he foregoi	ng to	he a	true	conv (	of the
Company's Journal, l					10	r the
month ending	***********************************					
				D		4
	***************************************	** * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *		B	ook-kee	per.
	Manager					
9-						
Date						

The Cash Book ought to contain, in Cash Book, 5. chronological order, a record of all cash receipts and payments. It is, strictly speaking, a Ledger account kept in a separate book for the sake of convenience, and should more correctly be termed the "Cash Account."

All cash received should be paid forthwith into the Bank, and all payments made by cheque payable "to order." It will therefore be seen that, after allowing for any amounts, either receipts or payments, which may not have been entered in the Pass Book, that the balance at the bank will agree with the balance shewn in the Cash Book; and a statement setting forth this agreement should be recorded in the Cash Book at the end of each month.

In some systems it is customary to journalise the cash. This is quite unnecessary. The fact of a receipt being entered on the Dr. side of the Cash Book makes a debit entry, in as much as it debits the Cash Account; while a payment being entered on the Cr. side of the Cash Book, makes a credit entry, thereby crediting the Cash Account. It is obvious, therefore, that, if the items are posted into the Ledger on the opposite side to that on which they appear in the Cash Book, the double entry is effected.

A certified copy of the Cash Book should be sent to the Head Office monthly, for which purpose the following Form is recommended:—

	* 1			pə.	
	ær.	Amount.	. (1)	being enter	Cashier.
IMITED.		Ledger Folio.	, ,	atages paid	
		To whom Paid and Particulars.		ash Book kept articulars of W	
	nding	Voucher Number.	4	mpany's Ca	
	th er	Date.		e Co	
	CASH ACCOUNT for Month ending	Amount.		I certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the Company's Cash Book kept at for the month ending to be a true copy of the detailed particulars of Wages paid being entered in the Wages Book.	
	ACC	Ledger Folio.		to be	
THE	CASH	From whom Received and Particulars.		I certify the foregoing to for the month ending in the Wages Book.	Manager
	E	Date.		I certify for the m in the W	Man Date

The Ledger is the book in which the Ledger, 6. transactions recorded in the Journal and Cash Book are summarized. It ought, therefore, to contain a complete classified record of the monetary transactions of the Company. It is recommended that, in posting, short particulars of each entry be given, instead of the all too common expression "To or By Cash," "To or By Sundries," &c., which often causes considerable waste of time and consequent annoyance to the Manager, or other official, who may wish to refer to an account in the absence of the Book-keeper. For this purpose it is advisable to have the Ledger ruled one account on each opening, not one on each page.

A certified copy of the trial balance of the Ledger should be sent to the Head Office monthly on the following form:—

THE COMPANY, LIMITED.

7	Trial Balance			************************	********	
-		•				
	I certify the alance of the month ending	Company's	Ledger ke		33.4 * *** ( ** * ** * * * * * * * * * * *	*******
Date	++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++	•				

As it is often necessary to make small PETTY CASH cash payments, it is advisable to draw a cheque for say £50 for this purpose, entering the amount in the General Cash

Book in the usual way and debiting "Petty Cash Account" in the Ledger. The amount should also be entered in the receipt column of the Petty Cash Book, and when a payment is made it must be recorded in the column provided for that purpose and, at the same time, extended in the analysis of payments under its proper account.

At the end of each month or week, if the number of payments render it necessary, the columns should be cast and agreed with the total payments, and a cheque drawn for the amount expended, thus bringing the Petty Cash up to its original figure. Supposing sundry payments have been made for "Cablegrams," "General Expenses," and "Postages," amounting to £10 8s. 2d., the entry in the General Cash Book should be as follows:—

By Petty Cash Disbursements—				
		£	s.	d.
Cablegrams		8	6	8
General Expenses		1	I	6
Postages	•••	I	0	0
	£	10	8	2
	~	-		

and the postings made direct therefrom (i.e., the General Cash Book) to the respective Ledger Accounts of "Cablegrams," "General Expenses," and "Postages," leaving the "Petty Cash Account" in the Ledger a fixed amount.

At the end of the Company's financial year it is advisable to draw a cheque for all payments to date, and to pay the original amount of Petty Cash into the bank, thus closing the "Petty Cash Account." This course obviates the necessity of forwarding to the Head Office a certificate of the Petty

PETTY CASH BOOK.

	General	
LS	Postages &	
EN		
PAXX	Cable- grams.	
ANALYSIS OF PAYMENTS	Rates Stationery & Taxes & Printing	
ANAL	ates S	
	~ ×	
	Rent	
	Salaries	
	ments	
	Payı	
.oV :	Лоисре	
	Sarticulars on Payments Sarticulars On Sarticulars Sarticular Sart	
	its Pa	
	Receipts Part	
	Date.	

Cash in hand, and is a system which, if adopted, cannot fail to meet with the approval of the Company's auditors. At the commencement of the following financial year a cheque should be drawn for the original sum, thus re-opening the "Petty Cash Account." Ruling for a Petty Cash book is given on page 14.

BILLS PAYABLE

BOOK AND

ferred to as being subsidiary to the Journal
BILLS RECEIVABLE (see paragraph 4), and it is the modern
BOOK, 8.

practice to post direct therefrom into the
Ledger. As however copies of the Mine's

Account Books must be sent to the Head Office monthly (see paragraph 44) these books should preferably be used as memorandum books for convenient reference on these matters, rather than actual accounts; and in the forms given on page 16 it will be seen that provision is not made for direct postings to the Ledger. The Bill transactions must therefore be recorded in the Journal.

"Bills Payable Account," as a rule, should not exist in the Mines Ledger. Pending the receipt of a remittance from the Head Office it might however be found necessary to accept a bill payable at the Company's bankers, in which case a "Bills Payable Account" will exist. For the purpose of accepting Bills a rubber stamp in the following form may be found useful:—

Assented

No

Accepted109
On behalf of
Co., Limited.
Manager. ) (or the officials whose
Manager. (or the officials whose signatures are lodged at the bank.)

### BILLS PAYABLE.

	Remarks.	
tancount	of Bill.	
When due.	Jan. Feb. Mar. April. Iune. July. Augy. July. Aug. Sept. Oct. Oct.	
	Term.	
	accepted.	
On whose	Bill. Bill. drawn. payable. account.	*
To whom	payable.	
By whom	drawn.	
Date of	Bill.	
No. of	Bill.	

## BILLS RECEIVABLE.

	Remarks.	
	of Bill.	
When due.	Jan. Feb. Mar. April. May. June. July. Aug. Sept. Oct. Oct.	
1	Term.	
Date	of Bill.	
Where	payable.	
Bv whom	drawn. accepted.	
By whom	ďrawn.	
From	whom received.	
No. of	Bill.	

It is important that the name of the Company should be inserted to prevent the personal liability of the Manager or Accountant. It is preferable, however, to give an order on the Company's Agent or a Bill on the Head Office, as explained in paragraph 14

These books, as their titles indicate,
Stores Inwards should contain a record of all stores
Book and acquired and issued. The stores, as
Stores Outwards received, ought to be checked with the
Book 9. official order, and entered into the "In
(see also remarks in wards Book." As the stores are issued,
paragraph 19). they will in like manner be entered in the
"Stores Outwards Book," and at stated
periods the totals of this book should be transferred to the
"Stores Inwards Book," and deducted. The balance should
then represent the stores in hand. It is, however, advisable
to take stock at least twice a-year.

The rulings given on page 18 are recommended for these books, additional columns being provided for the following, viz.:—

Nails.
Fuel—Wood.
,, —Coal.
Explosives.
Cyanide Works Supplies.
Chlorination Works Supplies.
Timber—Mining.
,, —Building.
Oils, Paints, and Grease.
Stable Supplies.
Native Food.
General Provisions.
Sundries, and any other headings that may be

found necessary.

## STORES INWARDS BOOK.

.ws.	unt.	
SCRE	Amo	
uts, &	Price	
Bolts, Nuts, & Screws.	Quantity	
	Amount	
STEEL	Price	
	Quantity Price Amount Quantity Price Amount Quantity Price Amount Quantity Price Amount.	
	mount	
Iron	Price A	
	Quantity	
TERNS	Amount	
ND PAT	Price	
Tools and Patterns	Quantity	
	Amount	
Of whom	Bought A	
	Date	

## STORES OUTWARDS BOOK.

4	Enrther columns chanld he added to	agree with the "Stores Inwards Book."	
Iron	Quantity Price Amount Quantity Price Amount		
TOOLS AND PATTERNS	Quantity Price Amount		
Date To whom For what Amount Issued purpose			
To whom	Date Issued		

It is not necessary to send a complete copy of these books to the Head Office, a summary on the following form will be sufficient:—

suff	icient:—	0.00	1	
	Stock		-	Storekecher.
COMPANY, LIMITED.	Stores outwards during		to be correct.	St.
9 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	th of Total.		I certify the above to be correct.	***************************************
	Statement of Stores for the Month of Stores inwards during		I Co	Manager.
	Stock 1ststock			
THE	Description of Stores.	Tools and Patterns Iron Steel Bolts, nuts, and screws Nails Nails Coal Explosives Chorination Works Supplies Chlorination Works Supplies TimberMining Do. Building Oils, Paints, and Grease Stable Supplies Calls Paints, and Grease Stable Supplies Sundries		Date

WAGES OF TIME BOOKS, 10. (See also paragraph 29.) Every item paid for wages must be recorded in this book, and the total of the weekly or fortnightly payments certified by the Wages clerk, Cashier or Accountant, and Manager. For a Mining Company rulings on the lines of Forms

A and B might be adopted, and, if necessary, the two forms might be incorporated. When ordering a book of this description the cashier should consider what his requirements are likely to be, and have the columns headed accordingly, leaving one or two blanks for contingencies. In the case of a Land or Development Company (see Form C), the columns should only bear the name of the property on which the work is being done.

The books may be ruled for one to four weeks' wages by means of interlining the day columns, the examples given being for two weeks.

... Manager.

# Wages Book for a Mining Company. "A."—For Permanent Works and Development.

-	7	
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		Remarks,			rks	
	01	Amount			Remarks	
	16	Total		er. ger.	Áp.i	
	TIONS			Cashier. Manager.	ot innound	. Cashier.
	DEDUCTIONS.			O W	Total	C
	DE	advanced			LIONS	
	_	Total,		* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	Deductions	
	_	I foto T		* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	DANIPADP	
				9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9	səgeW	
					Total	
	×	Damand Resevoir			General Labout	
	WORK	Tram.				
- Bu		Sgniblius			× ===	
Weeks ending	SURFACE	Chlornin		FOR MINING AND DEAD WORK.	Nepairs ≤	
eks	S	Cyanide		W	Cinlornin, F. Working	i
We		Battery or Mills		Q1	Chlorata C Chilorata C C Chilorata C C Chilorata C C Chilorata C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	
		Winding		DE/	. Maning &	
				D ]	Expenses Hauling&	
for				AN	Battery	
unt				ING	General	
Acco		Cross		IIN		
Pay Account	WORK	-		2		
_	W o	Raises		For	ORK.	
	UNDERGROUND	Drives Winzes			Numit T	
	ERGR	ives		"B."	N SILEM	
1	UND			"	Laying C	
		Levels			N Sundmit	
		Air			AgailasH .yammT	
					*suitaeH	
	_	Main Shaft			ZainiM	
- 1	Total	Hours			Hours   E	
- 1	To	Days			Days	
		Friday			Friday Saturday	
- 1	ау	Wednesd			Wednesday	
		Monday			Monday	
		Sunday	'230 '92mt to '94ttc		Yebnus	
		Work	NOTE,—Sufficient description of work done should be green in this column so that an analysis can be made of the cost of each Shaft, Level, I would be with the column of the cost of each shaft, Level, and the cost of each shaft, Level, while the column is the column of the column in the column in the column is the column in		Work	
		Name			Name	

Remarks.

				To pay	
			DEDUCTIONS.	Total.	
T COMPANY.	IMITED.	***************************************	DEDI	Total Otal Wages	
WAGES BOOK FOR A LAND OR DEVELOPMENT COMPANY.	COMPANY, LIMITED.				
FOR A LAND (		week ending	NAME OF PROPERTY.		
VAGES BOOK		Pay Account for week ending	NAM		
" C." W	THE	P	To-	Hours, :	
				Sunday, Monday, Tuesday Wednesd Thursday Friday, Saturday Days, Hours,	
				Work	

Name.

Cashier.

As in the case of "Stores" a summary of this book will be sufficient for the information of the Head Office, for which purpose the following form is recommended:—

COMPANY, LIMITED

Cashier

THE

Place \_\_\_\_\_

		Wage	s Sheet	***********	*********************	*******************************	**********	
Name.	Work.	Time employed.		Rate.	Ame	ount.	Account	
	WOIK.	Days.	Hours.	Nate.	Native.	White.	charged.	Remarks.
		111.						
1	certi	fy that	the abo	ove pa	yments	made by	y me ar	e proper
charges	agair	st the	Compa	ny, an	d that	they are	correct	and in
accorda								

A Debit Note is a statement setting Debit Note, ii. forth the particulars of a charge against some personal or nominal account; and it is recommended that such statements should pass between the Head Office and the Mines for any payments made at the one office on account of the other. (See paragraph 14.)

Manager.

Account and Cr. form, shewing the transactions
Current, 12. which have taken place between the Head
Office and the Mines. It is recommended
that such a statement should be sent from the Mines to the

Head Office at the end of each month. The Account Current will be a copy of the "Head Office account" as it appears in the Mines Ledger, and it will be seen that, by adopting this plan, any discrepancy which might occur would be quickly detected.

OPENING Having considered the use of the Accounts, 13. various books, etc., we now turn to the Accounts to be opened.

An account under this heading should HEAD OFFICE be opened in the Mines Ledger, and it ACCOUNT, 14. will be to the Mines Office what the Capital Account is to the Head Office—

the source whence the funds are drawn. It is assumed that the remittances to commence and continue operations will be made by the Head Office. A remittance of £1,000 is made through a firm of bankers. The first entry to be made is in the Cash Book on the Dr. side, thus:—

T	r. Cas	вн.	CONTRA.	Cr.
Jan. 1	To Head Office Remittance	1 1000		

and in accordance with the instructions given under "Cash Book" in paragraph 5, this amount will be posted to the credit of the "Head Office Account" in the Ledger, and will appear therein as follows:—

Dr.	HEAD OFFICE ACCOUNT.	Cr.		
	Jan. I By Cash Remittanc	e I 1000		



It is thus seen that Cash Account is Dr. for £1,000, while Head Office is Cr. for a similar sum.

Again, the Head Office sending out machinery and plant to the extent of say £500, will send a Debit Note (see paragraph 11) setting forth the particulars of the goods forwarded.

This item, not being a cash transaction as far as the Mines Office is concerned, will, therefore, not be entered in the Cash Book, but in the Journal, as follows:—

JANUARY, 1897.								
Jan. 10.—Machinery and Plant Dr. (or the various accounts as explained in paragraph 17.)  To Head Office	2	500		500				
For Machinery as per Debit Note No. 2								

Again, the Head Office makes a payment on account of the Mines. For instance, the Manager may request that a part of his salary be paid in England to someone on his behalf.

The usual Debit Note would pass, but, as in the above example of machinery, the Cash Account at the Mine not being affected, the Journal will again be the means of recording the transaction, thus:—

TABITIADEZ -O.

JA	NUARY,	, 189	7•	 	
Jan. 31.—Manager's Salary  To Head Office		3	75	75	
For proportion of for January as pe Note No. 3	r Debit				-

The Ledger at this point should appear as follows:-

1. Dr.	HEAD	Head Office Account.						
		,,	7.  I.—By Casin Remittance  10.—By Machiner  31.—By Manager's Salary	JI	1000 500 75			
2. Dr.	. 1	Machine	RY.		Cr. 2.			
1897. Jan. 10.—To Hea (en pa	ter short	500						
3. Dr.	Mana	ager's S	ALARY.		Cr. 3.			
	ad Office J I rt salary January	75						

The £1,000 standing to the credit of the Head Office account for cash remittance will, of course, appear on the Dr. side of the Cash Book.

The Company may, however, have an agent in the district or country where the mines are located for supplying the Manager with funds or other requirements.

On receipt of the funds the Manager should give an order on the Head Office, similar to the one below, so that the Agent may be reimbursed.

THE	COMPANY, LIMITED.
	189
Please pay to the order	of
Agent of the Company	forreceived
189	Accountant.
	Manager.
To the Secretary	Company, Limited.
Address	

The funds having been supplied by the Agent, it is advisable to credit his account in the Ledger; but seeing that an order has been given on the Head Office to refund the amount, an entry should be made in the Journal by which his account will be Debited, thus balancing it while Head Office must be Credited.

Very often accounts are opened under Sundry Creditors these headings, but it is preferable to open a separate account for each person. This Sundry Debtors, in practice will soon commend itself to the Book-keeper.

As the Cash Account is kept in a Cash Account, 16. separate book, it is unnecessary to open (See paragraph 5.) an account under this title in the Ledger.

This title almost speaks for itself, yet

PLANT AND items which ought to be charged to some

MACHINERY, 17. other account are often placed to the

debit of Plant and Machinery. To this
account should be charged not only the actual purchase price.
but the cost of shipping, transport, and erection—in fact, all
and every expense incurred in putting the machinery into

working order. A separate account should be opened for "Erection," and the total cost transferred to the "Plant and Machinery Account" when completed. It is, however, obvious that the depreciation is greater on some portions of the plant than on others, and for this reason, as well as for ready reference to "first cost," it is advisable to subdivide the account, thus:—

- (a) Battery and Engine.
- (b) Winding Engine and Gear.
- (c) Tramway and Wagons.
- (d) Boring Plant.
- (e) Blacksmith's Shop, Plant, &c.
- (f) Carpenter's do. do.

and such other accounts as may be found necessary.

Unless instructions have been received as to the rate of depreciation to be taken, it is better to leave this to the Head Office, the Manager making his suggestions in his report accompanying the account (see paragraph 27).

This account will show the "first cost" Buildings, 18. of the buildings, and will, therefore, be

charged not only with the material used in construction, but also with the wages of the men employed in the erection, the stores used, and any other expenditure connected therewith. It is also advisable to subdivide this account, e.g.,

- (a) Building Manager's House;
- (b) Building Employé's Cottages;
- (c) Building Engine House;
- (d) Building Battery Shed;
- (e) Building Blacksmith's Shop;
- (f) Building Carpenter's Shop;
- (g) Sidings,

and such others as may be required.

This account will be debited with all STORES, 19. stores purchased and credited with the (See also remarks stores used. The balance of the "Stores under paragraph 9.) Account" ought to be compared from time to time with the Stores Inwards Book, and should agree therewith.

As the Head Office requires a copy of the account books, it is not advisable to post from the stores books into the Ledger. An entry should be made in the Journal at the end of each month for stores purchased, say:—

Stores	Dr.	130	1 6	5		
To Sundries	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •					
For Stores acquired during	g					
189 as	per Stores					
Inwards Book						
A. Smith				20	5	2
B. Morgan & Co				13	2	2
Head Office (Consignment				96	14	2

An analysis or Summary of the Stores Issued should be prepared on the following lines, viz.:—

Building Manager's Hause

building ma	nager s	nouse	-			-
Iron			•••	£4 3	6	
Timber	•••	•••	•••	3 14	0	
Paint	•••	•••	•••	10	0	
						£8 7 6
Building Eng	gine H	ouse—				
Iron	•••	•••	•••	£2 I	4	
Timber		•••		2 2	0	
						£4 3 4
Battery and	Engine	-				
Paint	•••			£ 10	6	
Timber	•••	• • •		9 12	8	

£10 3

Tramway an	d Wago	ns							
Timber				£2	I	0			
Nails					4	6			
Bolts an	d Nuts				17	0			
							£3	2	6
Sinking Mair	Shaft-	-					,,,,		
Timber				£5	3	2			
Nails	•••				5	0			
Explosiv	res		•••	3	0	0			
							£.8	8	2
Mining									
Explosiv	es	•••	•••	£2	IO	0			
Timber				I	18	0			
Tools				I	13	2			
							£6	I	2
							£,40	5	IO
									_

An entry should then be made in the Journal charging the various accounts, and crediting the "Stores Account," th s—

Sundries		Dr.					-		
To Stores	••	••					40	5	10
For Stores issued from									
to as per	Book.								
Building Manager's House	• •			8	7	6			
Building Engine House	••			4	3	4			
Battery and Engine		• •		10	3	2			
Tramway and Wagons				3	2	6			
Sinking Main Shaft				8	8	2			
Mining Expenses				6	I	2			
(and any other accounts affected.)									

At the end of the Company's financial year a complete detailed schedule (the result of an actual stock taking) must be sent to Head Office to support the balance carried down upon this account. (See paragraph 45.)

This account should be debited with the cost of all safes, tables, desks, chairs, FURNITURE stools, &c. ACCOUNT, 20.

A certified schedule must be sent to the Head Office at the end of each financial year. (See paragraph 45).

This account should be debited with the cost of animals kept for working pur-LIVESTOCK, 21. poses, slaughter oxen being charged to a separate account.

A schedule must be sent annually, with accounts, to the Head Office, as in the case of stores. (See paragraph 45.)

TIMBER ACCOUNT These two accounts should be dealt with precisely as stores, or they might be AND FUEL incorporated therewith. ACCOUNT, 22.

PURCHASE OF PROPERTY, 23. (See also remarks under puragraph 35.)

The purchase of the property is usually dealt with at the Head Office, and will therefore not appear in the Mines Ledger. It may here be stated, however, that the purchase money is usually discharged in fully paid up shares of the Company, or partly in fully paid up shares and partly in cash.

In preparing the quarterly statement, ORE AT GRASS, 24. or the final account at the end of the

financial year, the ore at grass untreated should be taken into account at the cost per ton of bringing it to the surface.

Under this head we have to deal DEVELOPMENT with accounts which require very careful of MINE, 25. consideration.

The cost of developing the mine should be kept quite distinct from the general mining expenses, as probably a percentage will be written off each year.

In order to reach the ore it is necessary that shafts be sunk, and drives, winzes, &c., constructed; the cost thereof is "Capital Expenditure." On the other hand, as work in the mine proceeds new roads may be cut, the floors in the workings lowered, rails laid, the roof or sides timbered, &c.; these are charges against "output," or cost of getting the ore. There may, however, be expenditure for a drive from a new Level, or for deepening the mine, which would be charged to "Capital Expenditure."

The account should be subdivided according to the various works undertaken; for instance:—

- (a) Sinking Main Shaft.
- (b) Sinking Air Shaft.
- (c) Main Drive.
- (d) Level No. 1, etc.

We will now consider the charges
MINING against "output," or cost of getting the
EXPENSES, 26. ore, hauling and delivery to the battery,
and crushing. This account might be
subdivided as follows:—

### (a) Mining:

The wages of the miners, stores, &c.

(b) Hauling and Tramming:

The wages of the loaders, cagers, banksmen, engineers, stokers, tippers, stores, fuel, horse keep, depreciation of engines, plant, horses, &c.

(c) Dead Work (a separate account being opened for each undertaking):

Wages of men employed in making new roads during mining operations, cost of laying rails timber, stores, &c.

(d) Battery Expenses-

Wages of the engineers and stokers, stores, fuel, depreciation of plant and horses.

(e) Cyanide Working-

Wages, chemicals, stores, fuel, depreciation, &c

(f) Chlorination Working-

Wages, chemicals, stores, fuel, depreciation, &c

(g) General Labour-

Being cost of labour that cannot properly be charged to a specific account.

The question of depreciation is usually Depreciation, 27. dealt with by the Board of Directors at the Head Office, after receiving the engiparagraph 17.) neer's or manager's report as to the state of the plant, buildings, &c. This report should accompany the final accounts at the close of the financial year.

REPAIRS AND To this account should be charged RENEWALS, 28. any expenses not appertaining to the "first cost" of the "Asset."

For instance, should the piston or piston-rod of the winding engine break, the cylinder burst, the drum be repainted, the wire rope be renewed, or the roof of the engine-house blow off, &c., &c., the cost of supplying new parts, and the wages, stores, &c., in connection therewith, should be charged to Repairs. Care, however, must be taken not to include as repairs any new buildings or additions.

Wages, 29. All wages paid to the engineers, (See also miners, blacksmiths, carpenters, stable-paragraph 10.) men, &c., should be charged in the first instance to this account, a cheque being drawn for the actual amount payable on a certain date, as shewn in the Time Book. This should be entered in the Cash Book in a lump sum, thus:—

The amount having been posted from the Cash Book to the debit of "Wages Account" must be disposed of by crediting that account and debiting the respective Ledger accounts by means of an entry in the Journal, as follows:—

Sundries To Wages Transferring the amounts paid for W					372	6	10
to		105	3 2	3			
Sinking Main Shaft &c., &c.	••	147	I				

MANAGER'S SALARY, 30. (See also paragraph 35.)

It is advisable to keep this n account by itself, and a report should accompany the quarterly account (see paragraph 43) advising the Board of Directors as to how it might be apportioned between "Capital Expenditure" and "Profit and Loss," in case they wish to do so.

This account will include the salaries OFFICE of the local Secretary, Clerks, Storekeeper, &c. SALARIES, 31.

GENERAL OFFICE EXPENSES, 32. (See also

paragraph 35).

The items of expenditure falling under this head should be divided into as many accounts as possible, viz.:-

- (a) Office Rent.
- (b) Cablegrams.
- (c) Postage and Telegrams.
- (d) Stationery and Printing.
- (e) Bank Charges.
- (f) Interest.

to the purchase price of the property.

- (g) Exchange.
- (h) Law Charges.
- (i) General Charges.

In the case of a Company working its mining claims, the licences should be LICENCES, 33. (See also charged to this account, and written off to Profit and Loss, but in the case of paragraph 36). Exploration or Land companies, which buy claims with a view to future sale, the amount should be added

34.

Having explained most of the accounts LAND COMPANIES, which will require opening, we will now consider various matters which chiefly concern Land and Exploration companies.

PURCHASE OF PROPERTIES, 35.

When a Company buys farms, mining claims, town stands, &c., with a view to future sale, it is advisable to open separate accounts for each property purchased, e.g. :-

- (a) Webster's Farm.
- (b) Brown's Farm.
- (c) Granger's Block to claims.
- (d) Hangman Block to claims.
- (e) Stand No. 1001 at\_\_\_\_\_.
- (f) Stand No. 1002 at \_\_\_\_\_\_,

or accounts may be opened for

- (a) Purchase of Farms.
- (b) Purchase of Claims.
- (c) Purchase of Stands.

and a full description given in the Property Register (paragraph 39) where situated, registered number when and by whom pegged, &c.

The account should not only be debited with the purchase price of the property, but with transfer fees, licences, quit rents, sanitary fees, law charges, cablegrams, &c., and as regards such items as the salaries and travelling expenses of the Superintendent or Manager, and his assistants, these might be allocated to the various properties acquired according to the estimated time spent in connection therewith. (See also paragraph 36).

This procedure will be readily appreciated when it is remembered that sometimes two (or more) Companies work conjointly, the one paying all expenses and charging the other with their proportion. The expenses should be kept distinct in case the Board of Directors might decide to write them off to Profit and Loss.

Further, all work done on the properties should be charged to separate accounts, thus:—

- (a) Webster's Farm Development. (Work other than cultivation.)
- (b) Brown's Farm Development.
- (c) Granger's Block Development.
- (d) Hangman Block Development.
- (e) Buildings Stand No. 1,001.
- (f) Do. do. 1,002.

So long as the Company retains the property with a view to sale or flotation, the cost and expenditure will remain on the books until such sale or flotation is effected, when they will be charged against the proceeds of sale. If fully paid shares in another Company are received as the consideration for the sale, then the cost of the properties becomes the cost of the fully paid shares so received. Should any property be abandoned, then the cost thereof and expenditure must be written off to Profit and Loss at the close of the financial year.

RENT OF When a farm is let to another person FARMS, &c., 36. the rent received should not be credited to the cost of the farm, but to a "Rent Account," which being a Profit and Loss item will be transferred to the Head Office at the end of the financial year. In this case any expenditure other than that named in connection with the purchase and transfer of the property should be dealt with in the same manner. (See paragraph 35.)

SELLING TIMBER, together with the timber thereon, when 37. this is cut and sold the amount received should be credited to the original cost of the farm. Even when the timber is taken for the Company's use, an entry should be made in the Journal charging the account for which it has been used, and crediting the "Farm Account" at current rates less the wages of the men employed in cutting.

It is preferable, however, to divide the purchase price as between

- (a) The farm.
- (b) The timber, &c.

CULTIVATION OF When farms are cultivated with a FARMS, 38. view to selling or using the produce the Payments and Receipts should be entered into a "........... Farms Cultivation" account. Should any of the produce be taken for the Company's use, it must be treated as described in paragraph 37. At the end of this financial year any produce remaining unsold should be taken into the accounts at as near cost as possible, provided it does not exceed the marketable value, and the profit or loss transferred to the Head Office.

PROPERTY A book ought to be kept for the REGISTERS, 39. purpose of entering fuller details of all the Company's properties, and the ruling given on page 39 will be found very suitable.

Nine or twelve lines should be left on the top of the page to enter a full description of the property, terms of purchase, &c. The book, of course, should be provided with an index.

RULING FOR PROPERTY REGISTER.

References Remarks	. Notice of the control of the contr	
Reference		
s Paid.	Expenses.	·
Amounts Paid.	For Purchase. Expenses.	
Payable on Flotation.	Shares.	
Payable on	Cash.	
Payable in Cash on	Transfer.	
Total amount	paid in Cash and (or) Shares.	
	Date.	

When a company engages Prospectors
PROSPECTORS, to peg off claims, the wages paid, stores
40. used, and other expenses should be
charged to the claims pegged. These
expenses will constitute the cost of the claims, and ought
therefore to remain on the books until they are sold, floated,
or abandoned, when they will be dealt with in the manner as
described in paragraph 35.

Bonuses, 41. Prospectors, sometimes an arrangement is made, whereby they are entitled to a bonus on the sale or flotation of the claims pegged out.

When the claims are pegged, the amount payable for bonus should be debited to the account representing the claims and credited to a "Suspense Bonus Account," so that it is not lost sight of; but when making up the quarterly or final yearly statement (see paragraph 43) this latter account must not be included among the General Creditors, but shown as a separate item.

Should an advance be made to a Prospector on account of the bonus payable, or should the Prospector's interest be bought up, the fact must be recorded in a separate account, thus:—"T. Brown, Bonus Account."

Full particulars should be given, and the advance treated as an "investment" when making up the quarterly or yearly statement.

The Company may, however, dispose of its claims to a Development Company, and stipulate for the new Company to pay all bonuses. In this case the entry debiting the "Claims" and crediting "Suspense Bonus Account" should be reversed, and notice given to the Prospectors to the effect that the new Company has taken over the liability.

The advance made should still be retained on the books as an asset, and the new Company notified that such an advance has been made, or the Prospector's whole interest bought up, and at the proper time (i.e. when the claims have been floated into a Mining Company) a claim should be made for the amount due under the Prospector's agreement.

This report scarcely comes within the Monthly Report duties of the Bookkeeper, yet he may be of Work done, 42. asked by the Manager to draw up a form suitable for the purpose. The ruling on page 44 may, therefore, be of some assistance.



QUARTERLY At the end of each quarter it is advisable STATEMENT, 43. the state of the Company's affairs on the lines

Form for rendering Quarterly

D.,	THE			
Particulars.	For 3 months ending	For 6 months ending	For 9 months ending	For 12 months ending
To Head Office				
To Creditors				
To Suspense Bonus Account (see contra)				
To Sundry Receipts				
To Profit on sale of Shares in other Companies			3	
Note.—In the case of a mining company care should be taken to include on this side of the account all gold won, whether actually realised, in transit, or in hand; and on the credit side the value of gold won but not realised (i.e., if in transit or in hand				

(Place).....

to prepare and forward to the Head Office an account shewing of the form given below:—

Statement to the Head Office. ......COMPANY, LIMITED.

Cr

Particulars.  Particulars.  Particulars.  By Cash—At Bank In hand By Debtors By Properties, Mining Claims, Farms, &c. By Expenditure in connection with the above properties, including development. (Give a list of properties affected.)
By Cash—At Bank In hand By Debtors By Properties, Mining Claims, Farms, &c. By Expenditure in connection with the above properties, including development.
By Cash—At Bank In hand By Debtors By Properties, Mining Claims, Farms, &c. By Expenditure in connection with the above properties, including development.
By Cash—At Bank In hand By Debtors By Properties, Mining Claims, Farms, &c. By Expenditure in connection with the above properties, including development.
In hand By Debtors By Properties, Mining Claims, Farms, &c. By Expenditure in connection with the above properties, including development.
By Debtors By Properties, Mining Claims, Farms, &c. By Expenditure in connection with the above properties, including development.
By Properties, Mining Claims, Farms, &c.  By Expenditure in connection with the above properties, including development.
Farms, &c.  By Expenditure in connection with the above properties, including development.
By Expenditure in connection with the above properties, including development.
with the above properties, including development.
(Give a list of properties affected.)
By Expenditure to be allocated
to various properties  Manager's salary
Assistants' salaries
Traving. exes., &c
f
Suggested allocation
Webster's Farm
Brown's Claims
Stand No
<u>f.</u>
By Advances to Prospectors
against Bonuses (see contra)
By Shares in other companies at cost
By Buildings, plant, fixtures,
live stock, &c.
By Stores, fuel, &c.
By Sundry expenditure includ-
ing office salaries, bank
charges, cablegrams, station-
ery, printing, and general expenses
Note.—In the case of a Mining Company all the mining expenses as explained in party wash not good by a included on
in paragraph 26 should be included on this side.
ſ

SEE PARAGRAPH 42, MONTHLY REPORT OF WORK DONE.

1		
ı		
•		
1		
i		
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	•	
	:	
	·	
	. 0	
	No	
	-	
	=	
	=	
	Form	
	-0	
	1	

Report for Month ending ......189

1	ı, kə•	zema?	r	
		Per	Foot.	
	COST OF WORK DURING THE MONTH.	Total	-	
		Fuel. Stores &		
	OF WOR	Explo-	sives.	
		Wages.	Native.	1
			White.	
	Average Average of size of Milling Reef. Assay.			
	Average	size of Reef.		
	Cotal	or	date.	
	To. of ft. sunk or driven during month.		month.	
	Size of Shaft or Drive.			
	Name of Property Size of sunk or daring le Drive.  Work done.			Pitman's Reef— Sinking Shaft Drive Crosscut Golden Reef— Sinking Shaft Drive Crosscut

......Manager.

At the end of the financial year the Profit and Loss items, both Receipts and Payments, must be transferred to the Head Office.

In addition to the above-mentioned
INFORMATION TO report and quarterly statement, it will be
BE SENT TO necessary to send to the Head Office at
HEAD OFFICE, 44. the end of each month, the following
particulars:—

- (a) Copy of Cash Book (with Vouchers attached, except as otherwise stated in paragraph 45).
- (b) Copy of Journal.
- (c) Ledger Balances.
- (d) Stores Sheet.
- (e) Wages Sheet.
- (f) Account current with Head Office.

These should all be certified by the Bookkeeper and countersigned by the Manager.

When an audit of the Company's accounts is conducted on the other side, it will be necessary to retain the vouchers at the Mines. These, together with all certificates or documents of title for any shares in other Companies or mining claims, farms, &c., must be produced to the Auditor, but when an audit is not so undertaken, the following additional documents should be sent to the Head Office at the end of each financial year.

- (g) A certificate from a Notary Public or an Accountant giving full details, and stating that he attended at the office of the Company when the documents of title for shares, mining claims, farms, &c., were produced. This should be done on the first day of each financial year.
- (h) A certificate from the bank shewing the state of the Company's account.

- (i) A statement shewing the agreement between the amount stated on the above-mentioned certificate and the Cash Book.
- (j) In cases where the amount of petty cash is not paid into the bank, a certificate of the amount in hand signed by the Book-keeper and countersigned by the Manager.
- (k) A schedule, the result of actual stock-taking, of all stores, live stock, &c., on hand, signed by the Storekeeper and countersigned by the Manager.

In cases where the Company holds
DECLARATION shares in other Companies, and the same
OF TRUST, 46. are registered in the name of the Manager,
or any other official, a declaration of trust
should be executed by the person so holding the shares. This
document should be sent to the Head Office, and for this
purpose the following will be found suitable:—

# DECLARATION.

"I hereby deck		•	
Name of Stock.	Certificate Number.	Number of Shares.	Distinctive Numbers.
I have compared	I the above wi	th the Certific	Manager.

(To be Signed by a public Accountant or Notary )

Documents of title and certify the same to be correct.

Place\_\_\_\_

To meet the requirements of Com-Shares in other panies dealing in stocks and shares, rulings Companies, 47. of a Day Book, Received and Delivered Book, Investment Ledger and Cost Book, are given in the Appendix hereto.

Most of the points which usually arise in connection with the accounts of a Gold REMARKS, 48. mining, Development, Land or Exploration Company have been dealt with in the foregoing paragraphs. It has been the object of the writer throughout—while keeping within the limits imposed in the first paragraph—to treat the subject in a concise and practical manner, and, in conclusion, he ventures to express the hope that the book may prove of service to such of his readers as require what might be termed "first aid" in rendering accounts to the Head Office.

# APPENDIX.

"A." BOUGHT AND SOLD DAY BOOK.

1		
	Net	
livered	Commission qms1s bns	
Sold or delivered	Price Amount	
0,		
	No. of shares	,
	Total cost	1
cquired	Commission and stamps	
Bought or acquired	k Dr. Cr. of Price Amount	
BC	Price	
	No. of shares	
Folio	Cr.	
	Dr.	
	Name of stock	
Through	whom Name pought of stock sold	
3	Contrac Number	
	Date	

APPENDIX-continued.

"B." SHARES AND STOCKS RECEIVED AND DELIVERED LEDGER.

116	Remar	
Seal affixed to transfer deed	In whose presence	-
Se to tr	Date	
	Nos. of Certi- ficates	
Delivered.	Distinctive	
	No. of shares or stock	
Balance	No. of shares Shares shares or stocks Stocks stocks	
	No. of shares or stocks	
Received.	Distinctive	
	Nos. of Certi- ficates	
96	Transfer	
J.	Transfer	
From	whom received or to whom delivered	
	Date	

APPENDIX—continued.

"C." INVESTMENT LEDGER.

		20	
		Ç.	
	Balance.	Dr.	
		No. of shares or stock	
		Income	
	lelivered	Price Amount Income shares or stock	
	Sold or delivered.	Price	
		No. of shares or stock	*
	d.	Income	
	Bought or acquired.	Cost or valuation.	
	ought o	Price	
	Bc	No. of shares or stocks	
	Through	whom bought or sold	
		Folio Contract	
		Folio	
		Date.	

## APPENDIX-continued.

# "D." COST BOOK.

Date.	Through	Bought or Sold.	No. of Shares.	Rate.	Amo	ount.	Date.	Through Whom.	Bought or Sold.	No. of Shares.	Rate.	Amount.

NOTE.—In entering up this book purchases should be recorded in black ink and sales or income in red, adding or deducting each transaction as it occurs. The last line will then represent the shares on hand with the net cost to the Company.

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# APPENDIX—continued.

PROPERTY With reference to paragraph 39, Land REGISTER. Companies find it preferable to keep the records of properties, such as Farms, Mining Claims and Building Plots, or Town Stands, in separate books, or one book can be used and the pages apportioned to each ruling according to requirements. Form E, for Farms, should occupy two pages. Form F, for Mining Claims, has been found very convenient. The ruling occupies two pages and the whole of the right-hand page should be left for "Remarks." The ruling of Form G for Town Stands takes one page only.

MINING In the case of Companies working COMPANIES. Mines for a profit, it is important that the Head Office should be kept correctly posted as to the progress made each month. The following rulings have been found very useful:—

Form H.—Expenditure on Capital Account.

Form J.—Record of Development for One Month.

Form K .- Mine and Mill Return.

Form L.—Statement of Working Expenses.

Form M.—Statement of Footage Costs.

# FARMS.

			. Jo
		KEMAKKS.	
	No. of Mining Claims	Pegged on Farms.	
		Rent.	
	PARTICULARS OF LEASES.	Acres.	
	PARTIC	Period.	
	Quit Rent Particulars PARTICUL Per Of Of Annum. Title Deeds. Period.		
	Quit Rent per Annum.		y
	VALUE.	Amount.	
		Date	
	Purchase Price	Transfer Duty.	
	Where Situate.		
	Aron	arca.	
	NAME OF RADIA AND Where Purchase Price VALUE.	TO THE OF THE OF	
	Registration	Particulars.	No. of Grant Date Regd By whom Pegged Name Regd. in

# FORM F.

# MINING CLAIMS.

	AUTHORISED. Property REMARKS.		
	On Flotation.  To whom has been obtained.  Shares.		
PURCHASE CONSIDERATION.	lotation.	Shares.	
CONSIL	On FJ	Cash.	
PURCHASE	č	Transfer. Cash. Shares.	
	When		
	No. of Claims,		
	NAME OF REEF. Claims.		
	Registration		Reg d.No

FORM G.

# TOWN STANDS.

REMARKS,	
If let, rent receivable.	
Sanitary fees per annum.	
Sanitary fees per annum.	
Value. Sfind Date. Amount.	
Purchase Price,	
No. of Stand,	
Street.	
Township.	

# ENPENDITURE ON CAPITAL ACCOUNT

# For the month of

	60				
Distribution of General Charges.					
Total.					
	·		narges	Total	
Sundry Expenses.	1		General Charges: Share of General Charges		
Stores,			Charges: Share		
Native Labour and Food.			General (		
White Wages.					
Contractors.					
Account,	Main Shaft Do. Timbering	Totals			

Manager.

Secretary.

Date

# COMPANY, LIMITED.

Record of Development for Month of...

	Remarks.			Waller day
	Total To	complete.		
			-	
	Total	Length.		
	ed.	Raised.		
	Footage Advanced.	Sunk,		
1	Foc	Driven.		
		Place,		
		Level.	_	
		Reet.		

61

COMPANY, LIMITED. For

Manager.

Date

Mine and Mill Return for month ending

11			62
Per Ton Milled.	Bullion,	dwts.	
YIELD.	Fineness.	p 1,000.	
Α	Bullion.	ozs.	
	Total.	°SZ0	
AMALGAM WON.	General Clean up, Battery Sands.	ozs.	
A	Outside Plates.	ozs.	
VALUE.	Mill Rock. Mill Pulp.	dwts.	
ASSAY VALUE.	Mill Rock.	dwts.	
	Time Run.	Days hrs. mins.	
Duty per Stamp.	(Stamps.)	Tons.	
	Ore Milled.	Tons.	-
	Date.		

For

COMPANY, LIMITED.

Manager.

Secretary

# STATEMENT OF WORKING EXPENSES

For month of

month.
the
during
filled
SC
Tons
, Jo
basis
ಡ
On
Calculated

Total,		
Cost per Ton.		
		Total
		Manager.
Sundry Expenses.		, W
Assaying, Sampling, and Surveying,		0
Stores.		tons @
Steel and Iron.		
Explosives.		**
Fuel,		uo
Native Labourand Food,		edempti
White Wages,		Mine Development Redemption
Contractors		Develo
	rges	Mine
	Mining, including Maintenance.  Milling, including Maintenance.  Tramming, including Maintenance.  Mine Hauling, including Maintenance.  General Charges: (share of General Charges Account).	
	includir includir Mir includin Gene (share of	Date

Secretary.

63

# COMPANY, LIMITED.

Jo
month
Costs for
Footage

tors. White Labour Labour Stores, and Food. Steel and Iron. Stores, Sampling. Sundry Sampling.			04		General Charges: Share of General Charges charged to Development.	Total		Date	Secretary.	
Contractors. Wa						ļ ——		_		
No. of Feet.					Foor.					
Place.	Main Shaft	Total	Note.—Here put names of Winzes, Drives, Gross- cuts, Raises, &c.	Total Development	SUMMARY—PER	Shafts	Winzes	Drives	Crosscuts	Raises

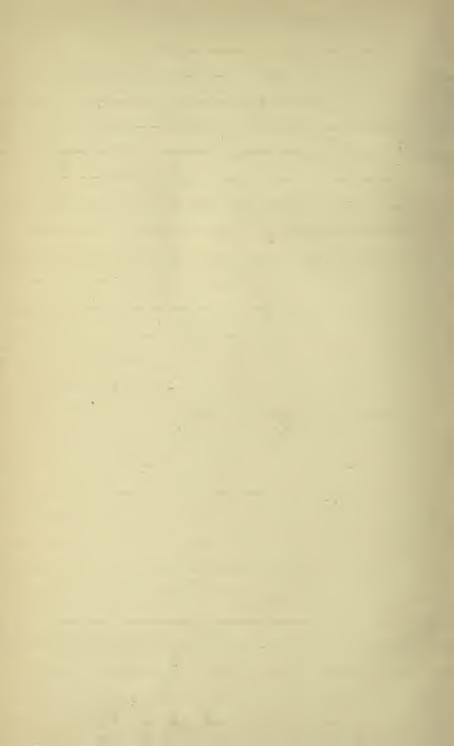












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